INVITATION TO AN INFORMAL EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON
TRADE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
BRUSSELS, 17 MAY 2016

The next informal expert group meeting on "Trade & Sustainable Development" (TSD) will be held on 17 May 2016 from 09:30 to 18:00 in the Charlemagne building, Jenkins meeting room (Rue de la Loi 170, B-1000 Brussels). You will find the draft annotated agenda for the meeting attached to this invitation. The meeting will be held in English with no interpretation available.

This meeting will follow up on the meeting held on 18 January 2016. Particular attention will be devoted to the implementation of the TSD chapters in concluded EU Free Trade Agreements. We look forward to an interactive discussion on your administration's areas of expertise, specific interests, and initiatives on TSD issues in trading partners (with a specific focus on Central America). You are invited to encourage participation in this meeting of colleagues working on labour rights, environment, and development issues within your administration. For any enquiry on the substantive items to be discussed at the meeting, please contact Silvia Formentini (tel: +32 2 29 75842, e-mail: Silvia.Formentini@ec.europa.eu).

In order to facilitate access to the venue of the meeting, you are kindly requested to register all your representatives on-line by 10 May 2016. To this end, please create an ECAS account by following the instructions provided at http://ec.europa.eu/visits/documents/ecas-step-by-step_en.pdf, and then register at https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/TSD-EGA-17May2016. Should you have any enquiry concerning the registration process, please contact Paola Dedic (e-mail: Paola.Dedic@ec.europa.eu).

Given the security arrangements, it can take some time to access the building. Therefore, please arrive at the Charlemagne building at least 30 minutes ahead of the meeting, so to facilitate its prompt start.

Please note that in order to ensure broad-based expertise, the European Commission will reimburse travel expenses of one expert per Member State. For this reason please send an email to Paola Dedic (Paola.Dedic@ec.europa.eu) indicating: the name of the expert, the institution, address and e-mail. Without this information by 10 May 2016, we cannot guarantee reimbursement. Further instructions on reimbursement will follow by e-mail once the expert's name and the institution is confirmed.

Madeleine Tuininga
Head of Unit
Informal technical meeting on "Trade and Sustainable Development"

17 May 2016, 09:30 – 18:00

European Commission, Charlemagne building, Jenkins meeting room
Rue de la Loi 170, 1000 Brussels

PROVISIONAL MEETING AGENDA

09:30 – 09:45

1. Introduction and adoption of the agenda

09:45 – 13:00 (Coffee break 11:15-11:30)

2. Follow-up to the previous meeting (18 January 2016)
   ✤ Overview by Commission of the information received in follow-up to the 18 January meeting concerning the inventory
   ✤ Presentation by participants of the information provided on Member States' areas of expertise, specific interests, and initiatives on Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) issues in trading partners
   ✤ Discussion on the organisation and use of an inventory
   ✤ Suggestions by participants for agenda items for next meetings of the Expert Group

3. Implementation of TSD chapters in concluded EU FTAs

   3.1 Preparations for the TSD meetings under the EU-Central America Association Agreement (June 2016)
      ✤ Presentation by Commission of the upcoming meetings
      ✤ Suggestions by participants on priority topics/issues to be addressed, also with a view to their ongoing/planned initiatives in Central-America
      ✤ Discussion

   3.2 Update on the EU-Korea TSD chapter: launch of a project under the Partnership instrument on the implementation of the ILO convention n. 111
      ✤ Presentation of the project
      ✤ Discussion on opportunities for Member States' participation

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch break

14:30 – 17:30 (Coffee break 16:00 – 16:15)

4. Update on the review of the Aid for Trade Strategy
   ✤ Debriefing on Expert Group meeting of 20 April 2016

5. Responsible management of supply chains

   5.1 Bangladesh Sustainability Compact
      ✤ Debriefing on the 2nd follow-up meeting
      ✤ Discussion on next steps
5.2 Other initiatives
   ✷ Update by the Presidency on FAC/DEV Council Conclusions
   ✷ Update by the Commission on a project under the Partnership Instrument on Corporate Social Responsibility in Asia
   ✷ Discussion

6. Ongoing negotiations
   ✷ Update on state of play in TSD negotiations (TTIP, Japan, Tunisia)
   ✷ Update on EGA negotiations

17:30 – 17:45

7. AOB

17:45 – 18:00

8. Conclusions